Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, AC 20515-0904

April 29, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Chair House Appropriations Committee Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Kay Granger Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding in the amount of \$981,004 for Northeast Florida Regional Food Bank Equipment Upgrades in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is Regional Food Bank of Northeast Florida Inc. located at 1116 Edgewood Ave. N., Units D/E, Jacksonville, FL 32254.

This funding will purchase a backup generator, thermal energy management system, rooftop solar panel system, and food waste dehydration system. These upgrades will increase capacity, maintain power in times of disaster, and reduce general operating costs by bringing new cost efficiencies to power utilization, refrigeration, and food waste processing and disposal.

The project will give Northeast Florida Regional Food Bank greater economic security and production efficiencies that will allow greater reallocation of available budget to meet the priorities of food purchase and food distribution in the community. Northeast Florida Regional Food Bank targets 237,000 people needing food assistance in eight counties and primarily touches the lives of those who live at or below the poverty line.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Thank you for your consideration of this project that is of significant importance to my district.

Sincerely,

John H. Rutherford